

Kershaw County

ABSOLUTE RATING: Good
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Average



Definitions of District Rating Terms

Excellent- District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

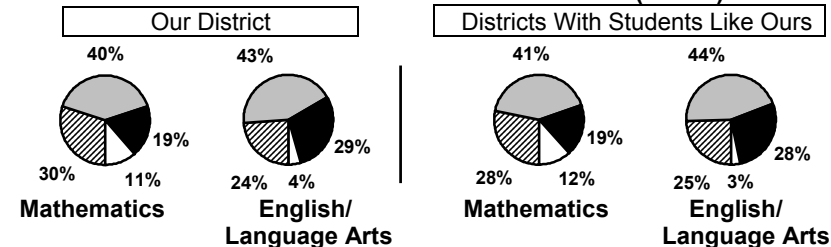
Good- District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average- District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average- District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory- District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



Advanced
 Proficient
 Basic
 Below Basic

DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2002		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Students Scoring Basic or Above on The PACT		
	N	%	N	%	N	% ELA	% Math
All students	548	94.0%	611	21.1%	4,252	76.2%	70.1%
Students with disabilities other than speech	26	84.6%	46	0.0%	318	28.3%	26.5%
Students without disabilities	522	93.5%	565	22.8%	3,887	81.0%	74.5%
Gender							
Male	251	93.6%	280	17.9%	2,190	71.9%	68.9%
Female	296	92.6%	331	23.9%	2,062	80.8%	71.4%
Ethnic Group							
African American	175	86.3%	209	5.3%	1,439	63.7%	55.7%
Hispanic	5	100.0%	7	14.3%	56	73.2%	75.0%
White	365	96.2%	392	29.3%	2,743	82.7%	77.4%
Other	1	I/S	3	I/S	14	100.0	100.0
Lunch Status							
Free/reduced-price lunch	137	87.6%	177	7.3%	1,993	66.6%	60.5%
Pay for lunch	404	95.0%	434	26.7%	2,193	86.9%	80.7%

N equals number of students on which percentages are calculated.

*Using the criteria for students who entered college in fall 2001.

Kershaw County

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	2000	2001	2002
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	71.2%	69.6%	62.2%
Passed 2 subtests	14.5%	16.9%	17.5%
Passed 1 subtest	8.4%	8.1%	11.7%
Passed no subtest	5.9%	5.4%	8.6%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	69.3%	71.2%	69.5%
Passed 2 subtests	16.7%	16.6%	16.2%
Passed 1 subtest	9.0%	7.8%	8.9%
Passed no subtest	5.0%	4.4%	5.5%

LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions*

	Eligible	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	21.1	40.4	23.2
Districts Like Ours	20.2	55.3	20.9

*Using the criteria for students who entered college in fall 2001.

College Admissions Tests: Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
District	503	518	518	538	1021	1056	17.7	18.4	18.3	19.2	18.6	18.8	18.0	18.6	18.2	18.9
State	486	488	488	493	974	981	18.8	18.8	19.3	19.1	19.5	19.3	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.2
Nation	506	504	514	516	1020	1020	20.5	20.2	20.7	20.6	21.3	21.1	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

These tests were administered to samples of students:

Terra Nova Test: A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

National Assessment of Education Progress : A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

ABBREVIATIONS FOR MISSING DATA

N/A – Not Applicable

N/C – Not Collected

N/R – Not Reported

I/S – Insufficient Sample

DISTRICT PROFILE

INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
DISTRICT				
• Dollars per student	\$6,647	Up 6.0%	\$6,817	\$7,072
• Prime instructional time	89.8%	Down from 91.6%	90.0%	89.9%
• Student-teacher ratio	18.7 to 1	Down from 23.2 to 1	20.1 to 1	18.6 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.3%	Down from 0.6%	0.4%	0.4%
STUDENTS (n=9,705)				
• Advanced placement/ Int'l baccalaureate program:				
Participation Rate	18.1%	N/A	11.5%	9.3%
Exam Success Rate	47.7%	N/A	53.4%	52.7%
• Attendance Rate	96.3%	Down from 96.7%	96.2%	96.0%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	2.0%	Down from 2.2%	4.7%	7.1%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	1.7%	Down from 2.1%	4.1%	5.6%
• Retention rate	5.3%	Down from 6.5%	5.0%	5.6%
TEACHERS (n=624)				
• Professional development days per teacher	N/R	N/R	5.0 Days	5.0 Days
• Attendance rate	95.1%	Down from 96.1%	95.1%	95.0%
• Advanced Degrees	55.6%	Down from 55.9%	49.1%	46.6%
• Continuing contracts	87.5%	Up from 84.3%	84.1%	83.1%
• Out-of-field permits	2.9%	Up from 2.4%	2.5%	2.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	91.6%	Down from 91.8%	89.9%	88.6%
• Average salary	\$39,655	Up 4.2%	\$40,007	\$39,023

DISTRICT FACTS

DISTRICT				
• Annual dropout rate	3.8%	Down from 4.9%	3.6%	3.1%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	54.7%	Up from 49.9%	54.0%	53.7%
• Superintendent's years in the district	8.5	Up from 7.5	5.3	3.0
• Parent conferences	97.2%	Up from 78.7%	96.8%	93.9%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	17	No change	15	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	0	Down from 1	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	No change	0	0
• Portable classrooms	7.7%	Up from 6.5%	5.7%	6.6%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	94.2%	Down from 97.3%	97.2%	96.8%
• Average administrative salary	\$64,757	Up 2.9%	\$67,995	\$66,570
STUDENTS				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	142	N/A	167	129
• Number of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	88	N/A	62	37
• Suspensions and expulsions	1.3%	N/A	1.6%	1.5%
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	18.3%	Up from 16.7%	14.5%	10.6%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	8.5%	Up from 7.8%	10.7%	10.7%

Kershaw County School District
1301 DuBose Court
Camden, SC 29020



Grades K-12

Enrollment: 9,705 Students

Superintendent Dr. Ralph A. Cain 803-432-8416

Board Chair Charles B. Baxley 803-438-4200

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**Annual District
Report Card**

2002

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

During the 2001-2002 school year, the Kershaw County School District served 9,666 students throughout Kershaw County with eleven elementary schools, two middle schools, three high schools, a career and technology education center, and an alternative program. A district focus for the year was preparation for the necessary transitions to open three new school facilities in 2002-2003 and fully implement a K-5, 6-8, 9-12 grade structure throughout the district. In addition, in order to meet our district's mission, which is "to prepare all students to excel as productive and responsible citizens in a global society...", we continued our efforts to build a Top 10 school district for Kershaw County. Our community written Strategic Plan 2005 guides our district. We believe that if we accomplish this plan, we will have a school district that rates in the state's Top 10 and prepares our students for a global economy.

Thanks to the guidance of our school board; the hard work of our teachers, administrators, support staff, and students; and the support of our parents and community, we successfully opened three new facilities at the beginning of the current school year and made the transitions necessary for a uniform grade structure. We are also making significant progress toward our goal of being a Top 10 school district. Our school readiness scores (CSAB) in 2001 were the best in the midlands and number 7 in the state. Also, in 2001, our district's SAT scores were in the state's Top 10 (8th highest of 86 school districts) and surpassed the national average. Only nine districts in the state had SAT scores above the national average. Our 2001 PACT scores reflected improvement in many areas, and our graduation rate exceeds the state's rate. In addition, the number of categories on state tests in which our district achieved Top 10 status has increased from 12 in 1998 to 59 in 2001.

A significant challenge to the district in the 2001-2002 school year was the loss of approximately \$1.75 million due to state budget cuts. This loss required budget reductions at all schools and the district level. We are concerned that continued cuts could significantly impact our ability to implement programs that we planned to continue our progress toward Top 10 status. During the upcoming school year, we will, however, continue our focus on student achievement and address areas of weakness that may be impeding our progress toward Top 10 in all areas. We appreciate and encourage the support of parents and the community as we continue our efforts to improve and meet the goals of our strategic plan.

Ralph A. Cain, Ed.D., Superintendent

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit
www.myschools.com or
www.sceoc.org